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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/836,141	04/16/2001	Frank Dombroski	48269.008	5796

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EXAMINER

MOONEYHAM, JANICE A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3629

DATE MAILED: 07/16/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/836,141

Applicant(s)

DOMBROSKI ET AL.

Examiner

Jan Mooneyham

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 April 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 2 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. This is response to the applicant's communication filed on May 16, 2001. Claims 1-2 are currently pending in this application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jones et al (US 2002/0156661) (hereinafter referred to as Jones) in view of Tagawa (5,732,398) (hereinafter referred to as Tagawa)

Referring to Claims 1 and 2:

Jones discloses a method and system for automatically planning, booking travel arrangements, comprising:

maintaining in computer storage device a database of user profile information including in information regarding air travel booking preferences, car booking preferences, hotel booking preferences and personal preference air travel ratings (pages 2-3 [0039]);

using the user profile information and the travel request data to automatically formulate a travel request in response to the travel request input, the travel request including airline, hotel and rental car reservation information (page 2, [0039]);

automatically creating a travel query file by applying business rules to the travel request, including (Fig. 2A (210);

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automatically executing an air booking process based on at least two categories of user preference information selected from the group of lowest price, arrival/departure time, airline, non-stop, duration, alternate airports and full fare automobile upgrades (Fig. 2A (200), page 2 [0039] thru page 3 [0047]),

automatically executing a car booking process for selecting (Figs. 2A, 5A), and
automatically executing a hotel booking process (Figs. 2A, 4A),
submitting the query file to a booking engine for creating a travel request query (Figs. 2A, 3A);
submitting the travel request query to a travel distribution system for retrieving air, car, and hotel availability information (pages 2-3 [0036-0047];
receiving from the travel distribution system the air, car and hotel availability information and creating a suggested travel itinerary (Figs. 2A-5C, Fig. 7);
allowing manual changes to be made to the suggested travel itinerary (Figs. 8A-8D);
accepting manual confirmation of the suggested travel itinerary (Fig. 3A).

Jones does not disclose a method and system wherein the travel request input including travel request data gathered from a user's calendar or automatically creating and storing appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary.

However, Tagawa teaches a method and system wherein the travel request input including travel request data gathered from a user's calendar or automatically creating and storing appointment events in the calendar application using data from the confirmed travel itinerary (page 3, lines 11-25, Figs. 12-13).

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It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention to include into the system and method of Jones the teachings of Tagawa since entering dates for travel related services and products by means of a calendar is a particularly effective tool to assist the user in selecting the desired travel related services and products.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

EP 1148433 discloses a travel packaging method and apparatus which retrieves available vendor offered travel products from airlines, hotels, car rental, etc.

Expedia.com discloses a travel web site for travel packages including flights, cars, and hotels.

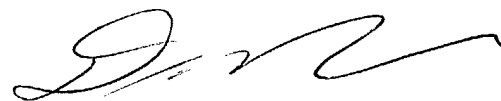
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jan Mooneyham whose telephone number is (703) 305-8554. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (703) 308-2702. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

JM



DENNIS RUHL
PRIMARY EXAMINER